Physical Description of Area

The coastal plain in the [illegible] area is bounded by the Mediterranean Sea on the west and the Lebanese range on the east. The climate is Mediterranean with dry summers, nearly all of the rain falling between October and May. The soil is chiefly a heavy clay. Much of this coastal area is suitable for irrigation. While most of the land is rocky and in the United States would not be used for farm land, nearly all land capable of cultivation has been brought under the plow. The steeper slopes are terraced, from these creates by rock wall erosion. The climate is favorable to the growth of subtropical and subtropical crops. Citrus fruits, bananas, vegetables, and cereal crops are found in abundance.

The major markets for the products of the five villages are Beirut and Sidon. All of the progress and several villages are linked to Arliyya-Sidon district roads maintained road by gravel-surfaced roads except for Loufaya and Sabbahiyeh, which are dependent upon trails. Is no less to the district from two miles from the main one. The traffic on this road is heavy and roads and buses are frequently available for taking persons to Sidon or Beirut. These towns are 40 and 45 miles respectively distant from Loufaya, 5 from southern village.

Village Government

The five villages included in a Kuwait Rural Improvement Project have a similar form of local government. Each village has [illegible] council who is elected to a [illegible] for [illegible] manner. In each village there is [illegible] of adherents or village elders. This board is also elected in place and is composed of [illegible] to six members. The headman is generally the largest landowner or [illegible] and one may [illegible] more in the village. The [illegible] among the major [illegible] villages. However, the concept of wealth is relative. Often the buildings owned by local villagers were [illegible] with others in their own communities, but small indeed when compared to a row of buildings in the village [illegible] by persons living outside the village. The [illegible] does not mean representation by the poor in the area election by the rich [illegible] town leaders.